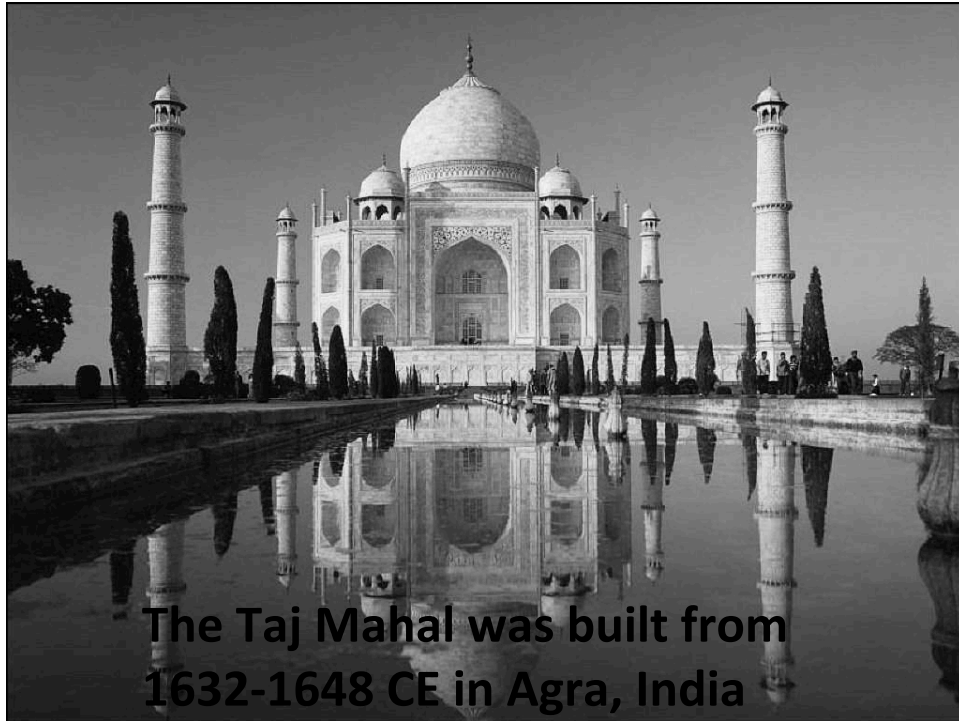


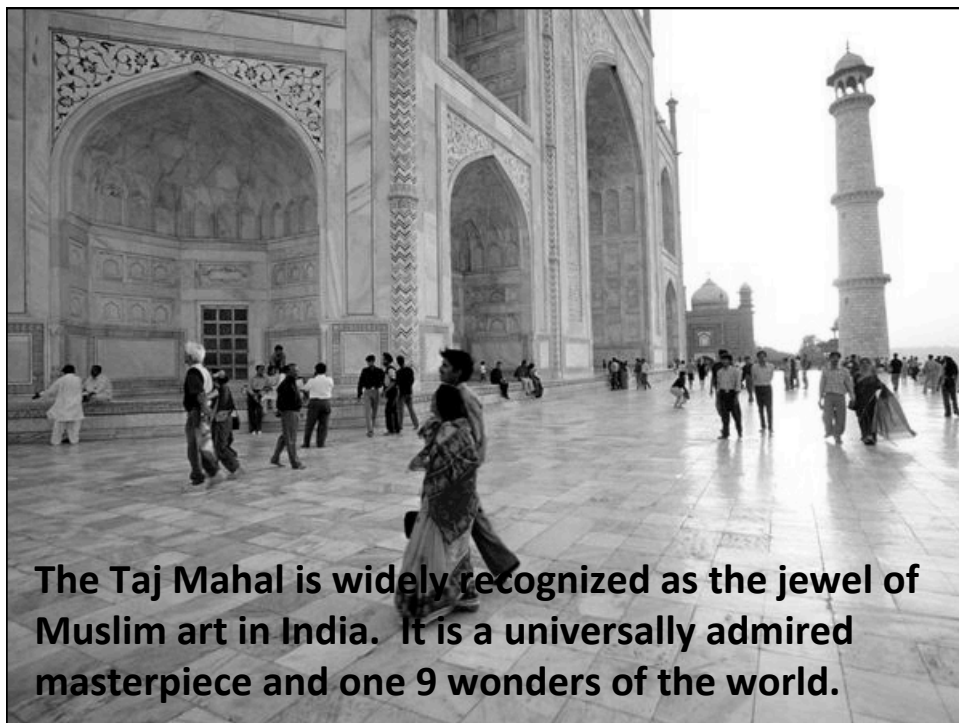
STANDARD & OBJECTIVES

I can visually analyze and describe the significance of the Taj Mahal.

7.10 Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources to examine the art and architecture, including the Taj Mahal during the Mughal period



The Taj Mahal was built from 1632-1648 CE in Agra, India



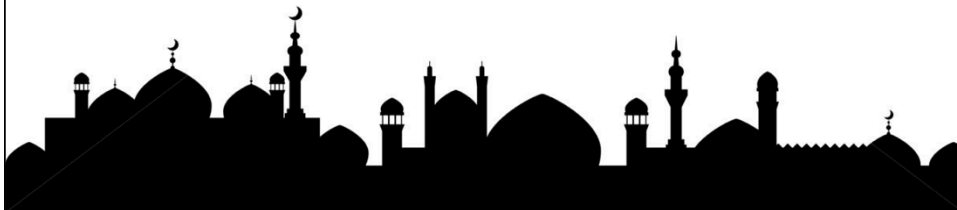
The Taj Mahal is widely recognized as the jewel of Muslim art in India. It is a universally admired masterpiece and one 9 wonders of the world.

- Taj Mahal = “Crown Palace”
- Named for Mumtaz Mahal, deceased wife of Shah Jahan (died while giving birth to her 14th child, OMG!)
- Built to serve as Mumtaz Mahal’s tomb. Shah Jahan was buried there next to her after his death.
- Symmetrical harmony of design makes the structure appear “mirror-esque”.
- One large arch flanked by two smaller arches (typical Islamic design)

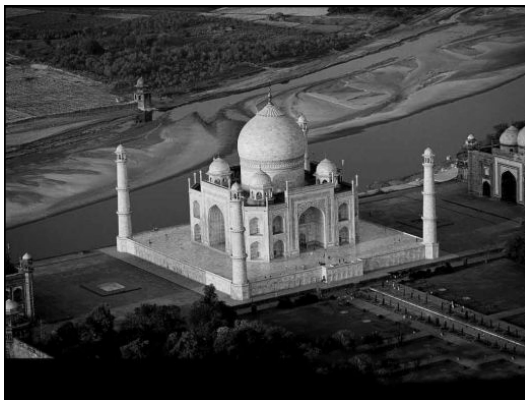
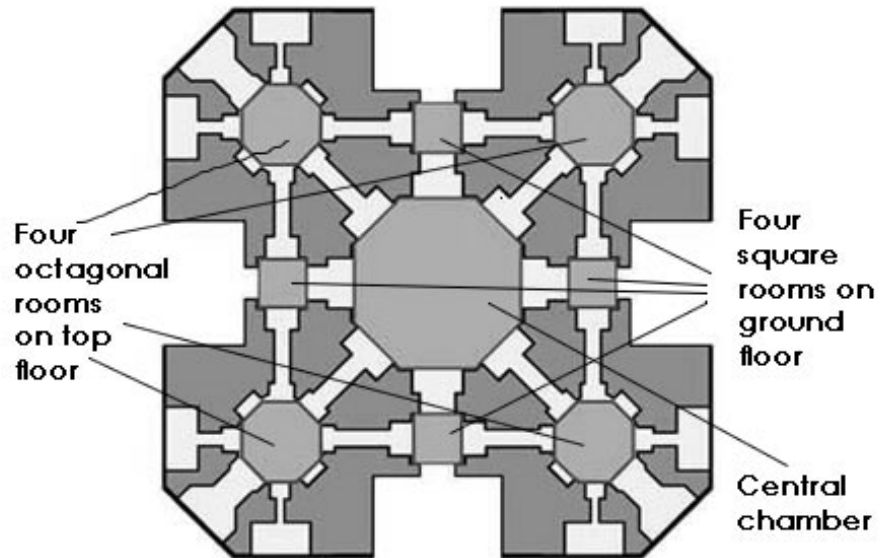


Emperor Shah Jahan himself described the Taj Mahal with these words:

*Should guilty seek asylum here,
 Like one pardoned, he becomes free from sin.
 Should a sinner make his way to this mansion,
 All his past sins are to be washed away.
 The sight of this mansion creates sorrowing sighs;
 And the sun and the moon shed tears from their eyes.
 In this world this edifice has been made;
 To display thereby the creator's glory.*

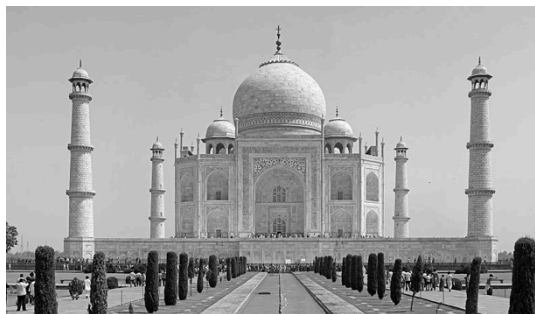


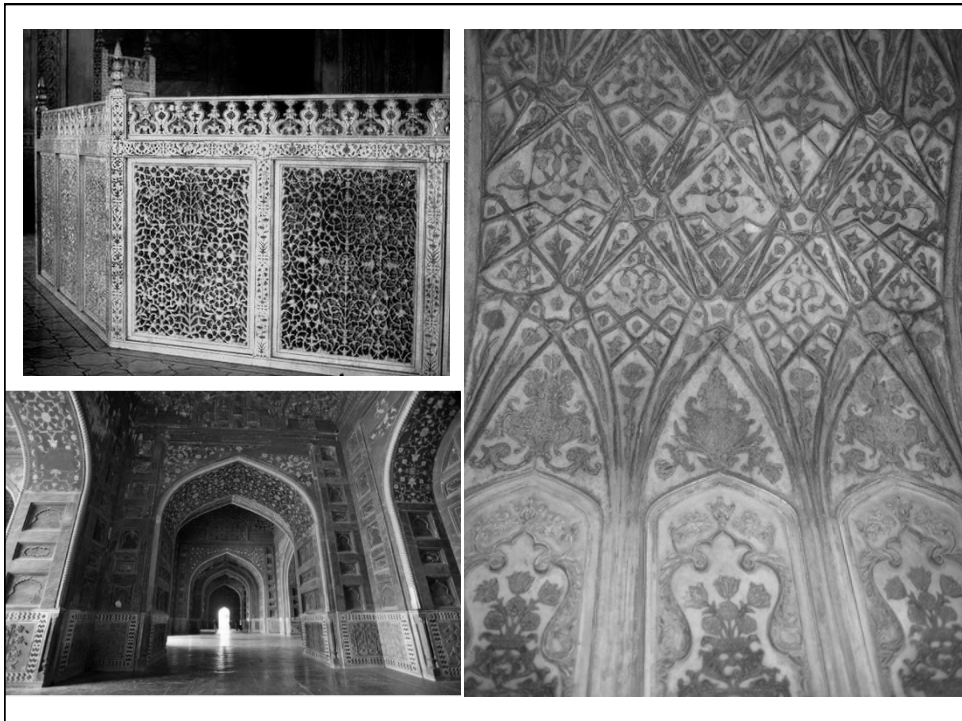
Square plan with chamfered corners (at 45-degree angles)



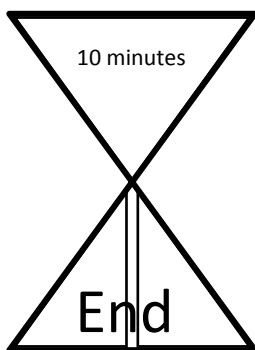
- Grounds represent a vast funerary garden—the gardens found in heaven in the Islamic tradition

- Minarets act like a picture frame, directing our views and sheltering the monument





CLOSE READING THE TAJ MAHAL



- **Read the article closely**
- **Highlight or underline important evidence.**
- **Answer questions or complete the graphic organizer.**

REVIEW QUESTIONS

What year was the Taj Mahal built?

Who was the emperor who built the Taj Mahal?

What empire was in power when the Taj Mahal was built?

What is the Taj Mahal made of?

What is a mausoleum?

What city is the Taj Mahal located in?

What ironic moment/ending is mentioned within this reading?